

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 1, lines 5-10 with the following paragraph:

Claim for Priority:

This application is a divisional patent application of United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/042,513, now United States Patent No. _____ 6,752,907, which application claims the benefit of the filing date of U. S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/261,879, filed January 12, 2001. The priorities of the foregoing applications are hereby claimed.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 52 and 53 with the following paragraph:

It will be appreciated by one who is skilled in the art that a variety of techniques may be utilized to achieve the desired voidage in the as-creped web. One method involves utilizing modified fiber. One may, for example, subject a portion of the fiber supplied to the aqueous furnish to a curling process. When utilizing this technique, typically at least about 5 percent, sometimes about 10 or about 25 percent of the fiber is subjected to a curling process prior to being supplied to the foraminous support. In other embodiments at least about 50 percent of the fiber in the aqueous furnish is subjected to a curling process prior to being supplied to the foraminous support, whereas one may choose to subject 75 percent of the fiber to a curling process or about 90 percent or more of the fiber to a curling process prior to forming the web. While any suitable method of curling the fiber may be used, a particularly advantageous method includes concurrently heat treating and convolving the fiber at an elevated temperature in a disk refiner with saturated steam at a pressure of from about 5 to about 150 psig. The fiber is optionally bleached. Preferred techniques involve carrying out this process in a disk refiner as described in more detail in United States Provisional Patent Application Serial Nos. 60/187,105 and 60/187,106, respectively entitled "Method of Bleaching and Providing Papermaking Fibers with Durable Curl and Absorbent Products Incorporating Same" and "Method of Providing Papermaking Fibers with Durable Curl and Absorbent Products Incorporating Same", now United States Patent Nos. 6,627,041 and _____ 6,899,790, respectively entitled

"Method of Bleaching and Providing Papermaking Fibers with Durable Curl" and "Method of Providing Papermaking Fibers with Durable Curl."

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 69 and 70 with the following paragraph:

In this respect, a particularly cost effective procedure is simply to concurrently heat treat and convolve the fiber in a pressurized disk refiner at relatively high consistency (20-60%) with saturated steam at a pressure of from about 5 to 150 psig. Preferably, the refiner is operated at low energy inputs, less than about 2 hp-day/ton and at short residence times of the fiber in the refiner. Suitable residence times may be less than about 20 seconds and typically less than about 10 seconds. This procedure produces fiber with remarkably durable curl as described in co-pending United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/187,106, filed March 6, 2000 (Attorney Docket No. 2247) entitled "Method of Providing Papermaking Fibers with Durable Curl and Absorbent Sheet Incorporating Same" (noted above), now United States Patent No.

6,899,790, entitled "Method of Providing Papermaking Fibers with Durable Curl," assigned to the Assignee of the present invention, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.